

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 239086

EXDIS

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY ARTHUR A. HARTMAN

FOLLOWING REPEAT ANKARA 7557 ACTION SECSTATE INFO ATHENS

NICOSIA 07 OCT

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 7557

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TU

SUBJ: PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE TO TURK SH PRIME MINISTER

REF: STATE 236949

1. I TALKED WITH SECRETARY GENERAL ELEKDAG MORNING OCTOBER 7.

I EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE USG ATTACHED TO

BASIC POINTS SET FORTH IN THE PRESIDENT'S LATEST MESSAGE

TO PRIME MINISTER DEMIREL (STATE 236949). I ALSO EXPRESSED

UNDERSTANDING OF TOTAL PREOCCUPATION OF GOVERNMENT FIGURES WITH

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BAYRAM AND FINAL DAYS OF ELECTION CAMPAIGN BUT ASKED FOR INDI-

CATION OF WHEN THESE OFFICIALS MIGHT BE IN POSITION TO MEET WITH ME CONCERNING THE POINTS IN THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE. FINALLY, I INDICATED THAT I HAD JUST LEARNED THAT SENATOR JAVITS WOULD BE WILLING TO COME TO ANKARA NEXT WEEK IF THIS WOULD BE HELPFUL IN THE PRESENT SITUATION. (STATE 237652).

2. IN RESPONSE, ELEKDAG INDICATED THAT IN THE WAKE OF THE CONGRESSIONAL VOTE AND THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER, SENIOR GOT OFFICIALS, IN COORDINATION WITH TOP MILITARY LEADERS, OBVIOUSLY HAD SOME EXTREMELY IMPORTANT DECISIONS TO REACH AND THAT UNFORTUNATELY THERE WAS NO POSSIBILITY OF THIS BEING DONE BETWEEN NOW AND ELECTION DAY (OCTOBER 12). ELEKDAG ASSURED ME HOWEVER, THAT HE HAD PERSONALLY READ CONTENTS OF THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE OVER THE TELEPHONE TO PRIME MINISTER DEMIREL. ELEKDAG ALSO SAID THAT WITH THE ELECTIONS NOT TAKING PLACE UNTIL OCTOBER 12, HE DID NOT SEE HOW IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR SENIOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS TO TALK SERIOUSLY WITH ME CONCERNING THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE PRIOR TO OCTOBER 15.

3. I INDICATED UNDERSTANDING OF THE TIMING PROBLEMS NOW FACING KEY GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS. I ACQUIESCED IN THIS PROPOSED SCHEDULE, WHILE AGAIN REITERATING IMPORTANCE WE ATTACHED TO PROGRESS NOW IN (A) CYPRUS NEGOTIATIONS AND (B) REACTIVATION OF CDI'S.

4. AS FOR POSSIBLE JAVITS VISIT, ELEKDAG NOTED SENATOR'S CLOSE PERSONAL ASSOCIATION WITH FOREIGN MINISTER CAGLAYANGIL BUT INDICATED THAT A VISIT BEFORE OCTOBER 20 WOULD BE VERY INCONVENIENT FOR SENIOR GOT OFFICIALS. ELEKDAG SAID THAT UNDER DIFFERENT CIRCUMSTANCES GOT WOULD OF COURSE WELCOME AN EARLIER VISIT OF SENATOR JAVITS BUT THAT IT JUST WOULD NOT BE PRACTICAL TO RECEIVE HIM BEFORE THAT DATE. (LATER IN THE CONVERSATION HE SAID HE THOUGHT EVEN OCTOBER 20 MIGHT BE A FEW DAYS TOO EARLY.) I NOTED THAT IF SENATOR JAVITS WAS ABLE TO COME HERE HE MIGHT WISH TO COMBINE THIS WITH A SIMILAR VISIT TO ATHENS. I EXPRESSED SOME CONCERN HOW THIS DUAL VISIT MIGHT BE PUBLICLY RECEIVED HERE. ELEKDAG IMMEDIATELY REACTED STRONGLY AND NEGATIVELY TO AN ATHENS STOP BEING COMBINED WITH A VISIT TO ANKARA. HE SAID IT WOULD BE MOST UNFORTUNATE IF JAVITS' VISIT HERE COULD BE CONFIDENTIAL

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PORTRAYED BY LOCAL TROUBLEMAKERS AS AN EFFORT TO BE AN EMISSARY BETWEEN ATHENS AND ANKARA.

COMMENT: I REGRET THE PROJECTED DELAY IN MY BEING ABLE TO GET DOWN TO BUSINESS WITH THE GOT. WHILE THIS COULD BE THE BEGINNING OF A STALLING TACTIC, I BELIEVE ELEKDAG'S JUDGMENT IS CORRECT AND THAT FOR THE PRESENT IT WOULD BE A SERIOUS MISTAKE TO PRESS FOR AN EARLIER MEETING. I THEREFORE THINK WE SHOULD

LET THINGS STAND AS THEY ARE EXCEPT THAT (A) WE WILL CONTINUE TO PRESS OUR POINTS HERE WITH SENIOR STAFF LEVEL OFFICIALS WHO WILL BE SUBSEQUENTLY INVOLVED IN THE DECISION-MAKING PROCESS AND (B) I RECOMMEND THAT THE DEPARTMENT PREPARE A CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE FOR CAGLAYANGIL FROM THE SECRETARY TO BE SENT SUNDAY NIGHT (IF THE FOREIGN MINISTER IS REELECTED AS IS EXPECTED), IN WHICH THE POINTS THE PRESIDENT MADE TO THE PRIME MINISTER ARE REITERATED.

I ALSO REGRET THAT THE TIME IS NOT REPEAT NOT RIGHT FOR A VISIT BY SENATOR JAVITS AS HE IS HELD IN GREAT RESPECT HERE AND I BELIEVE COULD BE VERY HELPFUL WITH FRANK, BEHIND-THE-SCENES, ADVICE TO HIS TOP LEVEL CONTACTS.

ON THE SUBJECT OF EMISSARIES GENERALLY, HOWEVER, (FROM EITHER THE EXECUTIVE OR THE LEGISLATIVE B ANCH), I SHOULD ENTER A WORD OF CAUTION, EVEN FOR THE PERIOD AFTER OCTOBER 20TH. IF IN MY CONVERSATIONS WITH SENIOR GOT OFFICIALS NEXT WEEK IT DEVELOPS THAT THE TURKS ARE PREPARED TO TAKE APPROPRIATE STEPS WE SHOULD AVOID HAVING AN AMERICAN EMISSARY PUBLICLY ON THE SCENE AND NEEDLESSLY DRAMATIZING AMERICAN PRESSURE FOR TURKISH "GIVE" BOTH ON THE ISLAND AND WITH RESPECT TO OUR COMMON DEFENSE INSTALLATIONS. I DO NOT BY ANY MEANS RULE OUT THE UTILITY OF AN EMISSARY COMING HERE LATER THIS MONTH. BUT I BELIEVE THAT A DECISION IN THIS REGARD SHOULD AWAIT THE OUTCOME OF MY MEETING WITH GOT OFFICIALS NEXT WEEK AND THEN A JUDGMENT AS TO WHETHER AN EMISSARY OR ADDITIONAL PRIVATE MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT OR SECRETARY (OR A COMBINATION OF AN EMISSARY AND HIGH-LEVEL MESSAGES) ARE THE BEST WAY TO PROCEED.
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